

collect the water of river Rapti in its upper reaches;

(b) if not, whether the Jal Kundi project or a similar project on an alternate site has been abandoned; and

(c) in what way, then the river Rapti is to be tamed in Bairaich, Gonda and Basti Districts?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH): (a) and (b): Storage sites having sizeable capacity are not feasible in India. Studies have indicated that storage sites including Jalkundi appear feasible in Nepal. The Government of Nepal has been approached for co-operative development for the benefit of both the countries.

(c) The Ganga Flood Control Commission have made a detailed study of the flood problem of the Rapti and have suggested besides the construction of flood moderation reservoirs, implementation of marginal embankments, diversion of flood waters of Rapti into Ghaghra, river improvement works and raising of villages for dealing with the flood problem of Rapti

Solution of Workers Problem in Dalda Factory at Trichy.

7760 SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE & IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has stated in reply to Starred Question No. 168 on the 3rd March, 1975 that as soon as the Management of Dalda Factory at Trichy is transferred to Messrs Perumal Agencies Limited and the factory comes into production, the workers problems will be solved; and

(b) if so, whether there are any assurances to this effect to the Central Government from the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir, in reply to a supplementary question.

(b) The reference to the solution of the workers' problems was mainly in relation to the fresh employment potential which was likely to be generated when the factory was put back into commission. The workers employed when the factory was last in production have already left the Company's services under a "voluntary separation scheme" which provided for 1½ months' salary for each year of service. In view of this and even otherwise, the question of any assurances being given in this connection by the State Government to the Central Government does not really arise.

Flood at Dibrugarh

7761. SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news published in the Assam Tribune dated the 12th April, 1975 under the head "Brahmaputra Rises at Dibrugarh";

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government to the observation made therein; and

(c) action taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As reported by the State Government of Assam, the earthen shank of the existing spur at RD 4800 at Mathola near Dibrugarh was washed away except for a small portion near its nose, due to river action when the water level of the Brahmaputra suddenly rose on 10th April, 1975. The extent of damage to the spur has been estimated to be of the order of Rs. 2 to 3 lakhs.

The State Government have already taken up the work of constructing a stone spur of about 60 meters length at the site of the damaged spur, which forms part of the scheme for protection against erosion in the Mathola area approved at a cost of Rs. 58.59 lakhs. The work on this spur is expected to be completed by the middle of May 1975.